

Number of Participants

HELP-Link enrollment continues to grow:

- Over **10,300** people completed HELP-Link surveys;
- Over **15,700** people enrolled through the Montana HELP Plan have received employment services through the Department of Labor & Industry;
- Since the launch of HELP-Link, over **2,200** people have received intensive, one-on-one employment training services through the program.

Employment Outcomes

HELP-Link is putting Montanans to work with higher wages for participants:

- **91%** of HELP-Link participants who completed their training are employed;
- **44%** of HELP-Link participants who were unemployed in 2015 found employment after completing the program.
- Roughly **39%** of HELP-Link participants who completed the program in 2016 experienced wage growth. The average wage increase was **\$4,980** from 2015 to 2016.
- **51%** of HELP-Link participants had higher wages after completing the program. The average wage increase was **\$1,470** over-the-year.

Training Outcomes

HELP-Link continues to expand Montana's labor force with trained workers:

- The most common occupations pursued by HELP-Link participants are:
 - Registered Nurses (**26**)
 - Nursing Assistants (**26**)
 - Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers (**24**)
 - Medical Record and Health Information Technicians (**20**)
- Registered nurses earn a median wage of roughly **\$60,000** in Montana, which would likely be enough to lift a family of five out of poverty and above the Medicaid expansion eligibility threshold.
- The remaining occupations listed have median wages between **\$25,000** per year and **\$43,000** per year, which likely would be enough to individuals and small families of two people above the Medicaid expansion eligibility threshold

*Participant counts reported as of 9/05/17. Employment and training outcomes reported as of 7/07/17. This memo **does not** include data for Montana HELP plan participants who have been trained through DPHHS programs.*